

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. Con. Res. 94, the traditional measure which establishes the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies during the 108th Congress to begin work on preparations for the presidential inaugural ceremonies at the Capitol on January 20, 2005. The joint committee we are creating today expires on January 3, 2005, but will be renewed at the start of the 109th Congress to conclude its work.

Congress routinely passes this concurrent resolution every 4 years at about this time. The Speaker, majority leader and minority leader are customarily appointed by the Speaker to represent the House on the joint committee.

I urge adoption of the concurrent resolution. The Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of S. Con. Res. 94, the Senate concurrent resolution just concurred in.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution 94, 108th Congress, and the order of the House of December 8, 2003, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies:

Mr. HASTERT, Illinois;
Mr. DELAY, Texas;
Ms. PELOSI, California.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 15, 2004.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 15, 2004, at 9:25 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3724.

That the Senate agreed to House amendment S. 1881.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAHLL,
Clerk.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER AND APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BOARD OF VISITORS TO UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 30, 2004.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to respectfully submit my resignation effective today from the Board of Visitors of the United States Air Force Academy.

It has been an honor and a privilege to represent you, the United States Congress and the House Appropriations Committee on the Board. Unfortunately, with my responsibilities as Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, I have found it increasingly difficult to attend the Board meetings. Therefore, and after much thought, I have decided to resign my position so that you can appoint another member of the Committee who has more available time to devote more attention to this important Board.

The Air Force Academy is an outstanding institution and the Congressional oversight provided by the members you appoint to the Board is very important to its mission of training the finest Air Force officers in the world. Thank you again for the opportunity you have given me to serve on the Board.

With best wishes and personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,

C.W. BILL YOUNG,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9355(a) and the order of the House of December 8, 2003, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy to fill the existing vacancy thereon:

Ms. GRANGER, Texas.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule xx.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

THANKING C-SPAN FOR ITS SERVICE ON 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FIRST COVERAGE OF PROCEEDINGS OF HOUSE

Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 551) thanking C-SPAN for its service to the House of Representatives on the 25th anniversary of its first coverage of the proceedings of the House.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 551

Whereas C-SPAN (Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network) is a nonprofit educational

organization created in 1979 through the vision of Brian Lamb in order to provide live, gavel-to-gavel coverage of the House of Representatives to the American people;

Whereas on March 19, 1979, the House of Representatives turned on its cameras, and for the first time C-SPAN and its staff of just 4 people brought the live proceedings of the House into 3.5 million American homes;

Whereas in 1980, C-SPAN covered its first Presidential election and created one of the first nationwide viewer call-in programs;

Whereas by 1982, C-SPAN's schedule expanded to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week;

Whereas in June 1986, C-SPAN2 was created to broadcast live coverage of the Senate;

Whereas by 1990, C-SPAN broadcast to 50 million American households, and this number expanded to 60 million households just three years later in 1993;

Whereas in January 1997, C-SPAN launched live web coverage of the House and Senate proceedings on the Internet;

Whereas today, C-SPAN has a staff of 275, its around-the-clock programming is available to 86 million households via 7,900 cable systems, and an estimated 28,000,000 people watch C-SPAN each week; and

Whereas while only 51 percent of Americans voted in the 2000 election, surveys show that percentage of regular C-SPAN viewers who voted in the election was 90 percent: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses the thanks of the House of Representatives to the Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network (C-SPAN) for its service to the House on the 25th anniversary of its first coverage of the proceedings of the House;

(2) recognizes that for 25 years C-SPAN has met, and continues to meet each day, its mission of providing the Members of the House with a direct, unfiltered conduit to the American people on whose behalf they go to work every day, and in turn has provided direct access for the American people to their elected officials through call-in and other programs;

(3) recognizes that since its inception 25 years ago, C-SPAN has forever changed the face of American political life, provided tremendous benefits to the American people and their elected officials, and has had a significant positive impact on the American democracy;

(4) expresses its deep gratitude to Brian Lamb and the more than 275 C-SPAN employees who bring the proceedings of the House into the homes of tens of millions of Americans each day; and

(5) commends C-SPAN and its employees for a tremendous 25 years of service to the American people and the Federal Government.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. NEY).

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Mr. NEY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise here today in support of House Resolution 551, a bill honoring Brian Lamb and C-SPAN's Cable-Satellite Public Affairs Network for 25 years of service to the United States House of Representatives. Obviously, we all know today, Madam